

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-02
XMB-02 ACDA-07 /082 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:JWHITING:PS

APPROVED BY AF/E:RSPOST

EB/IFD/ORF:JWINDER

D/HA:MBOVA

-----141845Z 004516 /45

P 132047Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IBRD

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AND IDA LOANS FOR ETHIOPIA

REF: STATE 106156

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF
STATEMENT DELIVERED BY U.S. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT
MAY 10 IBRD MEETING CONCERNING U.S. ABSTENTION ON IDA
LOANS FOR REVISED AMIBARA IRRIGATION PROJECT AND ROAD
SECTOR PROJECT:

2. BEGIN TEXT: QUOTE: I AM INSTRUCTED TO ABSTAIN ON
BOTH OF THESE PROPOSALS BECAUSE OF THE GRAVE CONCERNS OF
MY AUTHORITIES -- WHICH I FULLY SHARE -- REGARDING THE
HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA AT THE PRESENT TIME.

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WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF GROSS VIOLATIONS OF
INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING ARBI-
TRARY EXECUTIONS, TORTURE AND OTHER INHUMANE TREATMENT,
ARRESTS WITHOUT CHARGE, AND CLOSED TRIALS. RECENT
REPORTS OF KILLINGS BY GOVERNMENT TROOPS OF STUDENTS
AND OTHER SUSPECTED MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION REINFORCE
THE VIEW THAT THE SITUATION IS SERIOUS INDEED. REPORTS

OF INCREASING DETENTION IN BOTH URBAN AND RURAL AREAS
ALSO CORROBORATE THIS VIEW.

WHILE THE U.S. DEPLORES THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE ARE
SENSITIVE TO THE FACT THAT THESE TWO CREDITS ARE
DESIGNED TO BENEFIT, AND ARE LIKELY TO BENEFIT DIRECTLY
SEGMENTS OF THE ETHIOPIAN POPULATION THAT ARE MOST
IN NEED. WERE IT NOT FOR THIS BASIC FACT, I WOULD BE
DISPOSED TO SPEAK IN ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSALS.

IF HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN ETHIOPIA IMPROVE, MY
AUTHORITIES -- AND THIS CHAIR -- STAND READY TO SUPPORT
PROJECTS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDI-
TIONS IN ETHIOPIA. IF, HOWEVER, THEY CONTINUE TO
DETERIORATE -- AND I FERVENTLY HOPE THEY WILL NOT -- I
BELIEVE A SERIOUS QUESTION WOULD ARISE WHETHER
ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA, EVEN FOR PROJECTS SUCH AS
THESE WHICH AIM TO AID PEOPLE MOST IN NEED, COULD
ACHIEVE THAT OBJECTIVE OF BETTERING THE HUMAN CONDITION
WHICH IS SO FUNDAMENTAL TO THIS INSTITUTION.

AS I HAVE SAID, I WOULD ASK TO BE RECORDED IN THE
MINUTES AS ABSTAINING. END QUOTE.

3. PLEASE ADVISE ACTION TAKEN PER PARA 3 REFTEL.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, VOTING ABSTENTIONS, LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE109293
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWHITING:PS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770171-0851
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770559/aaaabyzk.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 369ba494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 106156
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2526615
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS AND IDA LOANS FOR ETHIOPIA
TAGS: EFIN, SHUM, ET, US, IBRD
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/369ba494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009